

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/682,422	08/31/2001	John Joseph DiEnno	9D-DW-19893	7785
23465	7590 05/31/2005		EXAMINER	
JOHN S. BEULICK			HANSEN, JAMES ORVILLE	
C/O ARMSTRONG TEASDALE, LLP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 2600	ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE SUITE 2600		3637	
ST LOUIS, 1	MO 63102-2740		DATE MAILED: 05/31/200	5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION

PATENT IN REEXAMINATION

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

20050526

The reply filed on April 1, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): The claims as currently amended are now directed to an invention [claims now drawn to the combination of an escutcheon and a panel on an appliance door] that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Original claims 1 & 7 were directed towards "an escutcheon". Applicant previously elected the subcombination invention, while the combination invention was withdrawn. Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally resented invention, this application has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-5 & 7-9 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP 821.03, and CFR 1.111. Applicant is directed to re-submit the amendment claiming the original subject matter i.e., just the subcombination of an escutcheon so as to constitute a proper response to the last Office Action. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

James O. Hansen Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3637